

Napa State Hospital: Grounds Access Information for Judicially Committed / Penal Code and LPS / Civilly Committed Clients

It is the policy of Napa State Hospital to provide the least restrictive therapeutic environment for PC/Judicially Committed clients, while maintaining the safety and security of the facility. Napa State Hospital promotes the use of therapeutic on and off grounds passes/home visits and reintegration into community settings for LPS Civilly Committed clients, consistent with each client's individual treatment plan and his/her individual progress toward discharge.

Factors that are considered when a client is assessed for a grounds pass include:

- Psychiatric stability
- Security risk
- Presence of assaultive or threatening behavior (physical or verbal)
- Ability to follow directions
- Participation in treatment
- Personal hygiene
- Substance abuse problems

GROUND'S ACCESS LEVELS FOR JUDICIALLY COMMITTED / PENAL CODE CLIENTS (PROGRAMS 1, 2, 3, 5, 10):

To be considered for grounds access, the client's Treatment Team must conduct an assessment of the client and forward their recommendations to the Program Director for final review and approval. For clients inside the Security Treatment Area (STA), full grounds access is within the security treatment area. There are three (3) levels of grounds access for clients who reside within the STA.

- **Grounds Access Level 1** cards enable clients some independence with close monitoring by staff.
- **Grounds Access Level 2** cards enable clients to go to daytime therapeutic activities independently.
- **Grounds Access Level 3** cards provides full grounds access for both therapeutic and leisure activities.

"Quality of Life" approval for a Grounds Access Cards (level 1, 2 or 3) may be appropriate for some individuals who have cognitive or mental health limitations that interfere with their ability to make progress related to discharge criteria. Clients must not pose a danger to self or to others, must be stable behaviorally and mentally, and must be compliant with staff requests. The client should be, to the extent possible, actively involved in his/her treatment program. Finally, clients must be able to follow the policies in place regarding Grounds Access Card use, "out of bounds" areas, etc.

Grounds Access Level 1 may be considered to allow a client to go to a specific location within the STA. The client must have at least 30-days of successful utilization of a 1:5 and/or 1:8 staff escorting ratio. Grounds Access Level 1 cards provide clients with "point-to-point" cards to go to clinic appointments, the Visiting Center and other Central Program Service areas (with the exception of Our Café, Client Library, Special Events and the chapel). This card requires staff

to closely monitor the client's movement via contact with the intended destination, both to and from.

Grounds Access Level 2 may be considered after 30 days of successful utilization of a 1:5 and/or 1:8 staff escorting ratio, or Grounds Access Level 1. Grounds Access Level 2 allows a client to leave the treatment unit unescorted to attend religious services, daytime treatment activities and appointments within Central Program Service areas (with the exception of Our Café, the Client Library and Special Events).

Grounds Access Level 3 (Full Grounds Card) enables a client to go to multiple destinations and utilize the card for unstructured leisure as well as treatment activities. The client is eligible for a Grounds Access Level 3 card 60 days from admission to NSH. Exceptions are considered on a case-by-case basis. Eligibility and planning for a Grounds Access Level 3 card are part of the individual treatment planning process leading to placement in an unlocked unit and possibly outpatient treatment under CONREP supervision.

GROUND ACCESS FOR LPS / CIVILLY COMMITTED CLIENTS (PROGRAM 4):

To be considered for grounds access, the client's Treatment Team must conduct an assessment of the client and forward their recommendations to the Program Director for final review and approval. Clients committed under a Post Certification for Dangerousness or Murphy Conservatorship require Program Management and Medical Director approval prior to any unescorted on grounds access or off grounds trips or passes.

There are three (3) levels of grounds access for clients who are civilly committed.

Level 1 – Destination and Time Limited gives a client a specific destination(s) and time frames for grounds access, e.g., a two-hour access for personal necessities, going to and from a job site, and social activities on hospital grounds.

Level 2 - Time Limited gives a client a designated time frame for access to Hospital grounds.

Level 3 – Unlimited Access gives a client unrestricted use of Hospital grounds with the exception of "Out of Bounds" areas.